JOSEPH M. FREEDMAN
COUNSELLOR AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
LYCEUM THEATRE BUILDING
MEMPHIS, TENN.

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MEMPHIS 557

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~~LYCEUM THEATRE BUILDING~~ 45 Goodlar Bldg.
MEMPHIS, TENN.

February 7th, 1919.
Friday

My sweetest Pet:-

Just received your darling letter of the 4th Tuesday and was happy to read on the envelope that you had just received my Sunday letter. I certainly am glad to hear that your dad is working already. I am sure that if you were here now, he would come down, too. Perhaps he might, some day.

Tots mine, yesterday my application to join the Masons only went in and it takes 30 days for them to pass on it & then take a vote. I feel that I will be rejected on a black-ball which I am sure will be cast by Bernatsky's nephew and prospective son-in-law, and I will tell you why. Last night was the meeting, besides proposing new members, to vote on those who were already investigated and Bernatsky, who was among the latter was black-balled, and therefore rejected. His nephew, who is a 32nd degree Mason, and who by the way was proposed and got in entirely through my uncle blame my uncle for Bernatsky's rejection, and therefore, to get even, I believe ~~my~~ he will black-ball me. That simply shows you what the Bernatsky bunch is and what they are likely to do. Believe me, sweetheart, if I am black-balled, I'll not take it to heart, but will keep on just the same, trying my best to earn a living and bring you here. Of course I may be wrong in my deductions, but I believe I am right. I am telling you this because if it does occur, you should not be surprised.

As for my general health, you have no need to worry. Dr. Lazar says there are no puffs under my eyes now that I am fit and round, and as to smoking, I am moderate in that, too. So you see, Tots, it's only I am lonesome that bothers me. Business has kind of slowed up. Haven't done a thing yesterday or to-day. Hope things take a turn. I am so anxious to have you here! If I could only see you! Well, the time will come, and come soon, I am sure.

As for fixing up a home, precious, I want to tell you that I will not live in a furnished room with you. Dr. Lazar emphasize the fact that it's no good. Just to show you, if we do go into light housekeeping, it would cost us $27.00 a month, at least and a few more dollars, I have my own home. Tots, leave it to me. If you

want, I'll fix up a little home, moderately furnished, for you, so that you can come down sooner, and then, when and more firmly established, we can get thing as you suggested. You see, while we are about it, we may as well go about it in the right way. You and I could never be comfortable in a furnished flat, for I myself hate it. If mondean would give me that set, I could have it, for the time being, as a parlor, or living room set, then all we would need is a bed-room set, and some furniture for the kitchen. If that would suit you, precious, and if we got the furniture from mondean, I'm pretty certain you could be here in April. I think, too, if you will consider it my way, you will find it will come out fine. I to get the furniture and fix up a place as best as I know how, and then when you come, fix it up as you like. Don't you think so darling? Mrs. Lagan advised me to get 3 rooms for the begining, so you see if I do that, and then, after you are here, we will look for a better place or, perhaps my furniture will be on a sound foundation by that time, we will move & buy new furniture. Just tell me what kind of a bed-room set you want, single or twin beds; also what kind of living set you want, and then the kitchen set, which can consist of a few chairs, a table and a cabinet.

As to the indictment the $5 I received from my client is only on account. As soon as this fellow is brought down, I'll get some more. The divorce cases haven't turned up yet, but perhaps they will, for my much & another fellow, a nigger, are trying to get them to take it up.

Well precious, I'm pretty blue. Didn't do anything for 2 days, afraid of repetition in the Masons and oh, missing you so much! I sure do wish I had you here. Often times I say to myself, I must call for you now, but I think it over, and then I see it is quite impossible, so I go on thinking and hoping for you to be here in April. Darling, I want you! Everything is so black. I'm so lonesome, and oh, how I wish I can lay my head on your lap and go to sleep. I'm at it again, Lots, but don't blame me.

Will close now, my precious, dear, darling wifie, light of my life, with all my love, kisses, hugs & thoughts

Your Ever lovingly and terribly lonesome

Hilby